

THE THIRD MEETING OF THE A.A.P.S.O. PRESIDIUM

Aden — PDRY, 19 - 20 January, 1976



AFRO-ASIAN PUBLICATIONS
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A G E N D A

1. *The support and solidarity with Angolan people led by MPLA.*
2. *International solidarity with the peoples of Arab Peninsula and the Gulf in their struggle for national independence and social development.*
3. *The role of AAPSO in achieving peace and justice in the Middle East and solidarity with the Palestinian Arab people to secure their legitimate national rights and to put an end to the serious situation prevailing in Lebanon.*
4. *International solidarity with the militant struggling people of Southern Africa against apartheid and for national liberation and in particular the support to the People's Republic of Angola, led by MPLA.*
5. *Struggle against neo-colonialist and neo-fascist subversion in Asia, and AAPSO contribution to peace and security in Asia against imperialist military bases in Pacific and Indian Oceans.*
6. *The future tasks of AAPSO in the struggle for a new International Economic Order, development and the strengthening of the movement for non-alignment.*
7. *Solidarity with the national liberation struggles in Latin America particularly with the people of Chile.*
8. *Solidarity with the people of Korea in his struggle against the U.S.A. imperialist interference.*
9. *The last developments concerning the problem of the Sahara.*
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**Mr. Youssef El Sebai,
chairman of the Presidium,
delivering his speech.**

**EXCERPTS FROM THE SPEECH
OF Mr. YOUSSEF EL SEBAL,**

**Chairman of the Presidium
and AAPSO Secretary-General**

Dear Friends,

Allow me to start my report by extending warm greetings to the delegations of the Third Session of the AAPSO Presidium and its guests as well as by expressing firm confidence that the activities of this session will strongly consolidate the Afro-Asian solidarity movement and reinforce anew the ties of militant solidarity among all detachments of the movement combatting imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and Zionism. It will also be a concrete contribution to the mobilization of all ranks of progressive forces struggling for national liberation, for economic and social progress, and development for the welfare of the peoples as well as for a world where lasting and firm peace prevail.

Allow me, as well, to extend deep thanks and gratitude to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and its unified political organisation, the National Front, as well as to its revolutionary leaders, comrade Abdel Fattah Ismail, National Front Secretary-General, Comrade Salem Robayyeh Ali, Chairman of the Presidential Council, Premier Nasser Mohamed and the brothers in the leadership of the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council in the People's Democratic Yemeni Republic, for their warm reception and hospitality as well as for the potentialities and material aid they provided to create the best conditions for the success of our work.

It is most significant that the third session of our Presidium be convened in Aden, the capital of the PDRY which

pursues a pioneer revolutionary course as well as assumes an extremely important progressive role whether on the scene of Arab struggle or in the battle of world progressive forces.

The movement of the Afro-Asian peoples, scored significant historic victories during the period between the last and the present sessions of our Presidium. Such victories are apt to intensify the major radical changes in the world power balance in favour of forces of peace and progress while increasing our determination to continue our just struggle to the end, for the liquidation of the last bastions of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, oppression and racism.

Imperialism, however, never laid down arms, nor will it do voluntarily; it is rather desperately trying to defend its last remaining strongholds as well as attempting infiltration to return to its old centres of influence. Hence, we have to absorb all lessons of our previous militant experience and deeply recognize that our first weapon in all our battles is holding to firm unity among all detachments of anti-imperialist forces at the national and Afro-Asian levels as well as in the international sphere. It is also the close alliance between the national liberation movement, the socialist community and progressive forces throughout the world.

Under such conditions, the issues of economic and social development gain even greater importance, for the genuine political independence should depend on a firm basis of economic independence as well as on wide-scale social activities for the welfare of the popular masses in the newly liberated countries which are the true buttress of independence and the tough defender of the independent development of their countries.

All this present us with new tasks which need discussion as well as urge us to epitomize all our experiences and try to draw the necessary lessons which would illuminate the way far our activities in the future.

Meanwhile, the non-aligned countries are greatly interested in resolving the economic problems of the developing countries. Their activities in this respect, thwart the dangerous manoeuvres of imperialism as well as exercise an increasing and constant pressure on it.

The AAPSO strongly supports all resolutions and progressive actions adopted by the Non-alignment Movement.

Imperialism, however, still represents the major barrier before the march of the developing countries towards liberation and progress, imperialism does not only block the economic and social progress of those countries, but it also adopts an antagonistic stand towards those countries which oppose its plans, while trying to impose on them political, social and economic systems which help maintain foreign domination, dependence and colonialism.

AAPSO will, most certainly, efficiently execute its noble historic mission on this struggle against colonialism in all its forms.



The members of the Presidium during the opening session.

**SPEECH OF
COMRADE ABDEL FATTAH ISMAIL**

Sec. Gen. of the National Front of P.D.R.Y.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

In the name of the AAPSO Presidium we open the first public session of the Presidium Third Meeting.

I take the pleasure on behalf of the Central Committee of the Unified Political Organisation, the National Front, and the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, to welcome you at the inauguration of the Third Meeting of the AAPSO Presidium.

It is with deep feelings of pride and appreciation that we see the convening of this meeting in our country, and the participation of eminent social and political personalities of high international standing in the struggle for the noble objectives sincerely and truly sought by AAPSO so as to realise the victory of causes of peace and solidarity among the peoples.

In fact, the convening of this meeting in our country and the participation of these brotherly and friendly delegations from various countries over the world and which comprise experienced militants and bright symbols of international struggle for peace and solidarity, could be considered an international demonstration on the part of representatives of world peoples in support of the struggle of our people, and a highly significant contribution to the triumph of our persistent struggle to score larger and deeper successes in the revolutionary process underway in our country aiming at building up a new life where prosperity and progress would be achieved in the interest of vast masses and for man's welfare.



Members of the Presidium greet Mr. Abdel Fattah Ismail, after his opening address.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

This day, 137 years ago, our Yemeni people fell under the occupation of the British colonial troops and our Yemeni people in this small courageous city waged a brave and heroic struggle in face of the invaders. However, it could not have been possible for the struggle of our people to bring about, then, the defeat of the aggressive forces. Our people continued to struggle valiantly to restore its national freedom and sovereignty triggering one upsurge after another until this long march of struggle was crowned by the break-out of the October 14th Revolution in 1963 and the victory of the Revolution on November 30, 1967 when our people gained national independence.

With the rectification step of June 22, 1969, the control of the rightists over power and the Organisation came to an end and our country started its new militant march on the course of construction and progress in the interest of the largest working masses of our people.

Today, and after 129 years of occupation, our country becomes a fortress of the national liberation movement. The capital of our country, this valiant small city, opens its arms to receive with pride and appreciation those prominent militant comrades. They are meeting today to discuss means capable of reinforcing solidarity between the people's forces to destroy the remaining hideouts of conspiracy, aggression and exploitation in Asia and Africa and to consolidate the hold of the forces of liberation, peace and progress in the world. This fully accords with our solidarity stand as part of the international revolution movement as well as goes in concert with our revolutionary course guided by the scientific socialist thought and which represents our people's will to build its new life on all political, economic, social and cultural levels.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

Our meeting today comes within just a few days of the celebration by the peoples of Asia and Africa, and with them

all progressive human forces the world over, of the 18th. anniversary of the foundation of AAPSO.

The birth of the Organisation was a natural response to the emergence of the revolutionary and objective need to find effective means for the reinforcement and development of solidarity and mutual aid among the peoples of the continents of Asia and Africa in their common struggle with all progressive human forces and to stand in one front against the forces and aggressive forces of world imperialism.

The period preceding the foundation of the Organisation was characterised by the overwhelming and comprehensive upsurge of the national liberation movement in Asia and Africa as well as the growth of the revolutionary tide in the world. In Africa, Asia and Latin America, the struggle of peoples against colonialism and imperialism was escalated as never before. The great victories achieved by the peoples of the Soviet Union and other liberation and progress forces in destroying the armies of Fascism and Nazism in Europe as well as Japanese militarism in Asia, and the emergence of the international socialist system after the Second World War, had their great and clear impact on the consolidation of the struggle of the people's forces for national liberation and social progress.

Hence, the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation had to be created for the reinforcement of the peoples' movements and the support of their struggle against the forces of imperialism and aggression.

The Organisation effectively contributed over 18 years to the reinforcement and escalation of the struggle of the two continents and the establishment of their militant struggle with the struggle of progressive humanity for liberation, peace, democracy and progress.

With the beginning of this year, the Organisation enters its 18th year with a large fund of experience and of achievements. It derives today its prominent role from the high standing it enjoys as one of the World's major forces firmly

fighting for the objectives of liberation, democracy and peace for the peoples of the world at large.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

The outstanding successes, scored by peoples of all continents over the past years, led to radical changes in the balance of forces at the international level in favour of the forces of liberation, democracy, peace and socialism.

In this sphere, the positive results realised by the countries of the international socialist system and with them all forces of progressive humanity in their struggle for a system of firm security and cooperation among the peoples and countries of Europe regardless of the disparity in their political, economic and social systems, and to eliminate the spectre of nuclear war, final recognition of the existing borders between the countries of Europe after the Second World War, non-intervention of the internal affairs of others and struggle to put an end to arms race. The successes realised over the last period are an important factor in the victory of the peoples' causes in the world over, while the significant steps realised in the context of peaceful co-existence between the countries of different social systems, created a better climate for the consolidation and victory of the peoples movements.

Meanwhile, the victories scored by the peoples of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos against the forces of American colonial invasion during their heroic struggle, their success in driving out the aggressive invaders and their march in the course of progressive construction, the national independence of the peoples of Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Cape Verde Islands, Sao Tome and Principe, and finally of Angola, and the fall of the Portuguese colonial regime as the last link in the old World colonial system by the downfall of the Salazar-Caetano fascist regime, all this promotes the growth of the international revolutionary movement as well as increases the gravity of the crisis of capitalism and colonialism. This opens as well larger vistas for new victories for the people's forces on the course of the realisation of their noble objectives.

The past years were fraught with fruitful results in favour of the liberation struggle of the Arab Palestinian people under the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) with the new victories, the increasing isolation of Israel and the gravity of its internal crises as a society based on racism, aggression and expansion while driving its existence and persistence in aggression from world imperialism, particularly the imperialism of the United States.

Overwhelming victories are being achieved today in favour of the people's forces in our contemporary world and the forces of imperialism and colonialism are not capable any more of halting the progressive revolutionary tide. The current period of human development is characterized by the enlargement and expansion of the international revolutionary movement while the successes of the International Socialist system are more firmly established. At the same time, the struggle of the world working class and its vanguard parties in the capitalist countries is stepped up and the national liberation movement scores successive victories while the crisis of the imperialist forces is becoming more acute.

This does not mean, in any case, that imperialism has laid down its arms. On the contrary, as imperialism finds itself amidst all these developments it escalates its aggression in a bid to recover its old influence.

For this purpose it exerts frenetic efforts to substitute its old methods by new diversified ones. However, this does not mean that it has completely abandoned its old methods. In this manner, imperialism resorts to murder, repression, destruction as well as direct and indirect intervention in the home affairs of people. It also resorts to increasing investment, exploiting the wealth of the peoples under its influence, engineering reactionary and fascist coups, innovating new forms of destruction, evading any international decisions, attempting to revive the aggressive military pacts destroyed by the forces of the people and setting up new military aggressive pacts aimed at creating new hotbeds of tension that threaten the hopes and aspirations of the people.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

As we discuss issues and define tangible means for promoting and consolidating the struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples we come to the task of working for the consolidation of the new achievements and the growing success of the progressive humanity.

Undoubtedly, all this requires the continued unmasking and perpetual unveiling of the acts of the imperialist, racist, fascist and reactionary forces. This also demands the firm support for the struggle and the national legitimate just rights of the peoples of both continents as well as enhancing our cohesion with the peoples of Latin America and all the forces of the international revolution, chief among which are the countries with socialist systems. They are the revolutionary vanguard of the forces at present and the main supporter of peoples in their struggle for liberation and in their march along the path of building and progress.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

The pressing need for developing the potentialities and effectiveness of the struggle and the national liberation movement of the Asian people has underlined the necessity of intensifying efforts and endeavours on a large scale for the liquidation of pacts and military bases in Asia. It has also pointed out the necessity of creating strong ties of solidarity among the peoples and countries of the Asian continent on the basis of cooperation, mutual interest, balanced relations and respect for the rights of all peoples.

Such legitimate needs of the peoples of Asia which life demands widely, strongly and increasingly, have been due to the successes achieved by the peoples of the Asian continent and their national liberation movements. However, there are still many focuses of tension and aggression in Asia, and these hinder the answering of the Asian peoples' needs for a secure and happy life, free from oppression, social and national persecutions and from the possibility of facing unjust colonialist war.

The stooges of imperialism, its watch dogs and the spreading military bases still constitute aggressive forces against which peoples should escalate their struggle for the sovereignty of peace, cooperation, mutual respect and the free and independent development of the people of the continent.

The struggle for consolidating the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in the building of their new life; and the support to the people of Korea in its struggle for the reunification, peacefully and democratically, of the two Koreas, as well as the welding with the struggle of the people of India against the rightist fascist forces, constitute tangible and important steps for bringing about victory for the struggle of these peoples.

Foremost among these steps is the decisive check of the fascist and military Iranian acts intended against the peoples of the Arab area and their just and national rights.

The fascist and military regime in Iran constitutes one of the main supports for U.S. imperialism, directly intended against the national interests of the peoples of the Arab peninsula, the Arab Gulf and the Arab countries, in particular, and the peoples of Asia, in general. For sometime, it has been trying to actually implement the imperialist schemes and threats to seize the sources of oil. This is evident through the wide military invasion campaigns in full agreement with the puppet Kabos regime in the Oman area, and the staging of wide military operations against the Omani people and popular armed revolution lead by the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman for the expulsion of the Iranian invaders and the establishment of an independent and free Oman. The Iranian forces also undertake antagonistic military actions on the boundaries of our country. All these actions are not aimed against the peoples of Oman and Democratic Yemen alone but also the peoples of the whole region and the Arab countries on the whole and is as well considered a serious threat to world peace.

As the struggles of the Arab peoples and the entire world culminate in great successes concerning the isolation of racist

Zionism in Israel and withholding the Arab peoples' struggle for the liberation of their occupied territories and the increasing solidarity with the Palestinian people and its armed revolution, meanwhile we must point out clearly the serious dangers which await the peoples of the region and which threatens the Arab entity of the Arab Gulf and their national rights through various forms mainly the call for the establishment of a suspicious security system for the Gulf peoples with the objective of tightly binding the region to the network of world imperialism and strangling all aspirations for independence in these countries.

The need is eminent for reinforcing the acts of assistance and support for national democratic struggle in Lebanon against the fascist Al-Kataeb Party and its allies and associates with its dirty crimes against the rights of the Lebanese people and its national movement and the Palestinian movement. We are also faced with the task of preserving the sovereignty and national independence of Lebanon and the integrity of its territories, as well as the task of welding our struggle and the struggle of the Palestinian people against the treacherous assaults of the Zionist racism in Israel. Equally, we must expand the circle of assistance for the struggle of the Palestinian people and its armed struggle under the leadership of the PLO for the reclamation of its legitimate national rights, the right of self-determination on its own land and the isolation of Israel in a manner that may comprise the various international and local circles and institutions.

Dear comrades and friends,

Recent developments in the African Continent impose new vital tasks which must be challenged in a comprehensive way.

The peoples of the African Continent have achieved much on the route of completing the liberation of our countries from colonialist domination and imperialist exploitation which in our present times has acquired such status which demands

the serious intensification of the struggle for the destruction of the remnants of the colonialist forces and the forces of fascist and racist discrimination. Supreme among these tasks is the intensification of support and assistance to the newly independent and the enhancement of the various forms of this support and assistance in a manner that may actually strengthen the positions of these countries in the process of their reconstruction, their national independence and sovereignty over their own territories, and may also raise the living standards of its peoples.

The people of the People's Republic of Angola and its political vanguard, the people's movement, is among those peoples who need utmost and effective solidarity with their struggle against the local agent forces and the fierce aggressions and the wild interventions on behalf of racist and fascist regimes in the vicinity of this country and foremost among them the South African regime assisted and directly orientated by U.S. imperialism. We are asked to stand firmly and strongly, beside the People's Republic of Angola until complete victory is attained.

Dear friends and comrades,

Our people in Democratic Yemen under the leadership of the Unified Political Organisation — the National Front, stands with firm belief on the side of the struggle of all the peoples in the world for the sake of democracy and liberation, peace and socialism.

We assert, once more, dear friends and comrades, our support for the struggle of the Latin America peoples against fascism and dictatorship. We express anew our profound and complete solidarity with the great Chilean people in its struggle against the military fascist dictatorship.

All the forces of humanity in the world are invited even more to strengthen their solidarity and cohesion to the great Chilean people and other peoples of Latin America which are fighting today for a free and honourable life. We are confident that the future will bring victory to the struggling peo-

ples and all the progressive and peace forces. The day will come when the strongholds of liberation and progress in Latin America will multiply. Besides heroic Cuba, we will certainly have several other Cubas, thanks to the peoples' struggle and the strong solidarity among them.

Dear friends and comrades,

This third meeting of the AAPSO Presidium is a highly important and significant international event. All the forces of humanity and progress in the world are watching us today. We have the honour to represent our militant peoples and we meet today to exchange opinion and to discuss the situation and to unify our work for the welfare of our peoples and their aspirations. We are faced by great and noble responsibilities which we honourably and honestly accept in favour of our peoples' food, ambitions and hopes for a future to be sheltered by freedom, progress and peace.

Once more, dear friends and comrades, we welcome you in our country, I should say your country ... in the interest of our common cause and objective ... in the interest of consolidating the solidarity among the people's forces in favour of the peoples welfare.



during the opening session. The Participants greet the members of the Presidium

GENERAL DECLARATION

The Third Session of the AAPSO Presidium was held in Aden, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, on January 19-20, 1976 and was attended by members of the Presidium and the Permanent Secretariat as well as by representatives of associate member Solidarity Committees in the Socialist countries, solidarity movements of a number of African countries, and international democratic organisations.

The meeting discussed highly significant issues in the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement, particularly during the period since the Organisation's 12th Council, held in Moscow in September 1975.

The participants assert that the past period was marked by renewed victories of the anti-imperialist progressive forces as regards the reinforcement of the International movement for national liberation and the establishment of the policy of international detente. It was also marked by the general victory of the forces of peace, liberation and democracy against the forces of imperialism, reaction and aggression.

The attendants noted with great concern the development of the situation in the People's Republic of Angola and the plots schemed by world and U.S. imperialism as well as the reactionary forces in Africa, particularly the racist regime in South Africa, sworn enemy of the African peoples, in a bid to foil the independence of Angola and to strike the experienced leadership of the Angolan people, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). They are trying to do so through the encouragement of international pro-imperialist groups which were identified with the enemies of the Angolan people. The meeting, while stating absolute support for the MPLA and its Chairman Comrade Agostinho Neto, strongly condemns the international pro-imperialist groups,

the racist regime of South Africa, U.S. imperialism, NATO and their partners who seek the subordination of the Angolan people to neo-colonialist domination.

The AAPSO Presidium urges all countries, who have not yet done so, to recognize the People's Republic of Angola under the leadership of MPLA, as well as calls upon the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations to seek the recognition of the People's Republic of Angola.

The Presidium calls for speedy unconditional withdrawal of all imperialist foreign and South African troops backing the internal pro-imperialist groups.

The meeting expresses support and consolidation of the young African republics in Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe and appeals to all word progressive forces to support and reinforce social and economic development, and progress in these countries.

The meeting condemns the racist regimes in South Africa, Namibia and ~~Mozambique~~ ^{Rhodesia} as a disgrace to the African Continent.

It reaffirms once more full support for the liberation movements, The African National Congress Party of South Africa, the SWAPO of Namibia, and the African National Council of Zimbabwe.

The meeting also strongly condemns racial discrimination and calls upon the Permanent Secretariat to step up during the forthcoming period, the world drive for the eradication of racism.

The meeting also considers with great concern the development of the situation in Lebanon posing a great challenge to the whole Arab national liberation movement. It deems the incidents in this Arab country part of the imperialist conspiracy designed to strike the Palestinian resistance and create conditions helping Israel to break its isolation and providing it with new chances and possibilities to continue its aggression on the Arab countries. It also aims at creating

larger opportunities for Arab reaction backed by imperialist circles, to close its grip on the area, paralyse the movement of the progressive Arab regimes and strike the detachments of Arab liberation movement.

The meeting declares its absolute support for the courageous Palestinian resistance movement, and considers that the support to, and victory of this movement is a great victory for the Arab liberation movement and the world progressive forces.

The peoples of the Arab countries which have suffered from the Israeli aggression are persistent in their struggle for the establishment of a just and permanent peace in the Middle East. As a result of the struggle of the Palestinian people and the other progressive Arab forces, and of the active development of the wide-world solidarity with Arab peoples, the isolation of the Israeli aggressors, supported by imperialism and world Zionism, is becoming more marked than ever.

The Presidium reaffirms its absolute support for the struggle of the Palestinian people as well as other Arab peoples, for full liberation of the occupied territories and complete restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people, particularly its right to self-determination on its homeland and the establishment of its independent national state on any liberated part of its land.

The meeting supports, as well, the U.N. resolution condemning Zionism as a racial ideology. This resolution is considered an international triumph for the Palestinian people whose land and rights were usurped by Zionism. The meeting calls upon the Permanent Secretariat to intensify its world propaganda and activities towards the condemnation of Zionism and the exposure of its racist objectives as well as its imperialist ties.

The meeting believes that the current Security Council debate on the Palestinian question should urge all progressive forces to support the Palestine Liberation Organisation

(PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and recognize the lawful national rights of the Palestinian people.

The Presidium expresses appreciation and support for the prominent role played by the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in backing the anti-imperialist movements and the Arab and international national liberation movement.

The participants believe that the Yemeni Democratic Republic could only play this progressive role if the forces of progress, peace and democracy continue their political, moral and material support while exposing the conspiracies schemed against it, and denouncing military attacks against its borders and people.

The Presidium meeting expresses support for the struggle of the Omani people against imperialist domination as well as against reactionary regimes in the area, and pronounced support for the heroic struggle waged by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman.

The meeting supports the struggle of the Eritrean people for obtaining its national democratic rights within a framework safeguarding the interests of both the Ethiopian and the Eritrean peoples.

The Presidium expresses as well its support of the struggle of the people of the Somali Coast for independence and liberty.

The Presidium meeting calls upon the Sudanese government to set free political detainees, return the dismissed to their jobs, stop expulsion from work for political affiliation and release trade unionist freedoms.

The Presidium supports previous AAPSO resolutions concerning the Sahara as well as congratulates the people of the Sahara on the evacuation of the Spanish troops and end of Spanish colonialism. It appeals to all concerned parties to settle the Sahara question by peaceful means so as to guarantee the rights of the Sahara people in a way that re-

inforces the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist and anti-reactionary forces in this region.

The imperialist plot against the Arab liberation movement extends to North Africa. Hence, the Algerian Revolution is exposed to imperialist and reactionary confrontations designed to block progressive transformations in Algeria.

The Presidium supports the struggle of the Moroccan people and its progressive forces for the restoration of all its territories still under Spanish colonialism, Ceuta, Melilla and Jaafarine Islands, as well as backs its fight for the construction of a liberated democratic Morocco where justice and equality prevail.

The session expresses great concern for the continuing aggression and occupation in Cyprus, as well as insists on the necessity for the immediate implementation of the U.N. resolutions and calls for practical measures to put pressure on Turkey for the implementation of the U.N. resolutions. It condemns all unilateral actions, such as the declaration of a so-called Turkish federated state, and any effort of colonisation and demographic restructure. It firmly supports a solution securing an independent, unitarian, demilitarized, non-aligned, territorially integral Cyprus.

The Presidium hails the emergence of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos and the endorsement of the new democratic constitution of the Cambodian government as well as the current process of unification of the two Vietnams, which issues have become vital factors of peace in Asia.

A new position has emerged in Asia consolidating the posts of peace and non-alignment as well as reinforcing collective security there. The masses drive in Japan against military bases is escalating while the demand for turning the Indian Ocean into a demilitarized zone of peace, free of aggressive military bases, has become a popular demand backed by the majority of the Continent's countries regardless of the nature of their social systems.

The meeting notes with concern the indulgence in arms area and stockpiling of deadly weapons including nuclear weapons, by the imperialist countries. The imperialists, especially the U.S. imperialists, are dumping arms in their client states, that which is posing a great challenge to the peace-loving countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as to world peace.

Hence, this meeting strongly condemns this arms race and dumping of arms, and whole heartedly supports the New Stockholm Appeal of the World Peace Council for stopping arms race and destruction of all nuclear weapons.

The AAPSO Presidium fully supports the people of Timor led by FRETELIN, in their struggle for national liberation. We demand immediate withdrawal of Indonesian military troops from Timor to let the people of Timor shape their own future.

The meeting strongly supports the draft submitted by the Democratic Republic of Korea for the peaceful reunification of both Koreas while it condemns U.S. imperialism which impedes these efforts and calls for the evacuation of the imperialist U.S. forces from South Korea.

The AAPSO Presidium extends its full support to the people of Chile in their struggle against the criminal fascist regime and for restoration of complete democracy and people's rule.

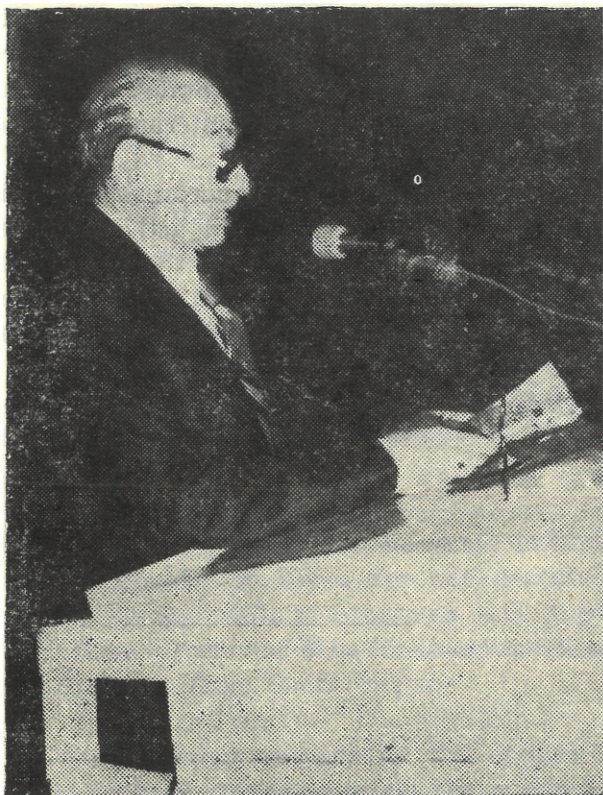
The Third Session of the AAPSO Presidium meeting carefully records the increasing role of the Socialist countries, notably, the Soviet Union, the forces of international liberation movement and of democracy in the capitalist world, in changing the face of the world in favour of liberation, independence, democracy and social progress.

The meeting urges, as well, for the reinforcement and expansion of the international detente policy and the intensi-

fication of the policy of peaceful co-existence between countries of different social systems and draws attention to the need to achieve complete disarmament and limitation of strategic arms.

Our experience proved anew the importance of the conclusions reached by our Organisation. The struggle for international detente and disarmament reinforce the grounds of struggle against imperialism and capitalism, and this struggle, in turn, steps up the cause of international detente.

The Third Presidium Session approves the report of the Permanent Secretariat on its overall activities as expresses satisfaction of the efforts exerted by the Permanent Secretariat towards the application of the 12th Council resolutions and the reinforcement of the struggle of the peoples of Asia and Africa.



**M. Aziz Sherif,
Vice-President of the Presidium,
delivering his speech.**

SPEECH BY
Mr. AZIZ SHERIF
Vice-President of the Presidium,
AT THE CLOSING SESSION.

Comrade President Abdel Fattah Ismail,

It gives me pleasure to extend my heartfelt warm wishes and profound appreciation to you and to your comrades in the leadership of the United Political Organization, the National Front, and to all the responsables and members in the Yemeni Council for Peace and Solidarity.

I address you in the name of the third Presidium meeting of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization and in the name of the Permanent Secretariat and the General Secretary, our brother Mr. Youssef El Sebai and on my personal behalf.

The constant attention you accorded to the Organization and patronage of this meeting today, your warm welcome to the members and the sincere collaboration and cooperation with them, your responsible and highly significant speech to which we have all listened with comprehension — all factors which arouse our admiration and strengthens our confidence in our mission's success. Above and beyond all, you and your comrades strike an inspiring example as you adhere to authenticity and democracy in your revolutionary conduct as you guide this brave republic.

This is not due to a fleeting impression from our experience with you in these current days, but as a result of our increasing knowledge constantly enriched and corrected by following the progress of this valiant republic.

A responsible appreciation by the national forces in their entirety, its determination to maintain unity and the formation of the United Political Organization, the National Front,

the role of each force in evaluating the importance of this body and firmly achieving its aims. The march of this republic behind its political leadership towards total liberation, proceeding decisively towards socialism, armed by a complete consciousness and rectification inspired by experience — all this imparts on us wide hopes and trust in pursuing its progressive revolutionary strides.

Your presiding over the Yemeni Council for Peace and Solidarity is a definite proof of this country's policy, the policy of consolidating world peace and solidarity with the liberation and progressive forces against imperialism and reaction. I do not fear being called subjective when I express my pleasure and personal esteem for your leadership.

Comrades,

Our meeting here in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen is a profound expression of the solidarity forces of the peoples' of two continents, appraising this sound policy. It is an international demonstration in the name of the peoples of two continents to support the people and government of this republic against conspiracies hatched by international imperialism and local reaction. Indeed, you stand in the front line of our peoples' struggle in this area. In our name and on behalf of the liberation movement in the two continents, and all over the world, we give you our full support. We back you and will do our utmost to enhance your efforts to defend the sisterly People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, its national front and its political leadership, and unite its revolutionary march. This unity whose first and last role is to fulfil its historical tasks.

Dear friends,

It gives me pleasure to reaffirm the speech of the Secretary General of the United Political Organization, the National Front, Comrade Abdel Fattah Ismail and the report of the Secretary General of the Organization, our brother Mr. Youssef El Sebai, concerning support to the peoples' struggle for full liberation and consolidate peace for continuous progress. Above all, the most important issue is our support to

the brave people of Oman led by the National Front for the Liberation of Oman confronted by a multilateral imperialist and reactionary plot. Most dangerous is the foreign military intervention which not only represents aggression against this revolutionary people but against the interests of our Arab peoples and presence in the area. This conspiracy is carried out with the convenience of the reactionary client government, the plotting and desertion of some Arab powers. I declare our firm stand behind the anti-imperialist peace and liberation front in supporting the people and government of popular Angola led by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, headed by Comrade Agostinho Neto. Popular Angola not only defends its entity but also the liberation forces in Africa against imperialism, racism and neo-colonialist forces as well as against all other interventions which join ranks with international imperialism and reaction.

We release our condemnation of the heinous imperialist reactionary conspiracy to split Lebanon through annihilating its citizens and widely destroying their property and impeding their daily life.

Lebanon and the Lebanese people face their share of American and Zionist imperialism's plot against the Arab Palestinian people in particular, as part of a general conspiracy throughout the Arab world. We urge the progressive Arab powers and governments to accomplish their historic duty by exercising a collective and responsible foresighted policy to stop the bloodshed and sabotage, and to protect the integrity and the entity of Lebanon.

Dead friends participating in this meeting, allow me, finally, to extend to you and to the people and government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, its political leadership, and President Salem Rabie Ali, the greetings of our people in Iraq, Iraq's national forces and President Ahmed Hassan El Bakr.

I have the honour to convey to you, coming from Iraq, a country that has always been in the forefront of the struggle to liquidate imperialist interests, support for your honourable endeavour and our hopes for achieving success.

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